

19990918.qrp v01_n583.qrl.990918

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 19:03:09 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1583

QRP-L Digest 1583

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [50624]
by "Thomas Witherspoon" <Thomas-Witherspoon@siecor.com>
- 2) [50625] Re: Antenna Tuners
by "dor" <elbc@pivot.net>
- 3) [50626] QRP Dummy Loads
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
- 4) [50627] QRPA Solar Conditions
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 5) [50628] REMINDER: W0CQC/7 TO ACTIVATE WYOMING IN QRP AFIELD
by "Dick Schneider" <dschneider2@uswest.net>
- 6) [50629] Re: Headphones [connections]
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
- 7) [50630] tuner
by Anthony Felino <anthony@pacinfosb.com>
- 8) [50631] MFJ 9040
by "George Goodroe" <goodroe@worldnet.att.net>
- 9) [50632] MiniBeams
by kclark@ridgecrest.ca.us (K Clark)
- 10) [50633] list question
by <SFIKE@twa.com>
- 11) [50634] Re: Antenna Tuners
by "William H. Launer" <launerb@crl.com>
- 12) [50635] Re: QRP Dummy Loads
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
- 13) [50636] Re: Pre-QRP Afield Solar Stuff
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
- 14) [50637] OT Re: list question
by "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
- 15) [50638] Sniffing 20m -40m prep for QRP-A
by S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
- 16) [50639] I'm getting worse....
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
- 17) [50640] GOOD BOOKMARKS FOR NEW FOLKS
by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
- 18) [50641] re Minibeams
by Charles Kadesch <chas@digizen.net>
- 19) [50642] e-Bay e-Insanity...

by "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>

20) [50643] Re: Antenna Tuners
by Christian Void <cvoid@netcom.com>

21) [50644] Re: e-Bay e-Insanity...
by RangerSF5@aol.com

22) [50645] Homebrewers
by Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>

23) [50646] Re: e-Bay e-Insanity...
by Terry Bendell <terryb@bmts.com>

24) [50647] K2
by <SFIKE@twa.com>

25) [50648] RE: SLV 101 Quiz (Follow-up)
by aweiss@usd.edu (Ade Weiss W0RSP)

26) [50649] Re: Homebrewers
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>

27) [50650] Re: Homebrewers
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>

28) [50651] Re: list question
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@primenet.com>

29) [50652] [Fwd: Homebrewers]
by Rich Wilkerson <richqrp@home.com>

30) [50653] [Fwd: Homebrewers]
by Rich Wilkerson <richqrp@home.com>

31) [50654] Re: That WaCkY AtOmIC cL0cK!
by "Al Gritzmacher " <ae2t@arrl.net>

32) [50655] Obsolete Motorola IC found!
by Thomas Kuehl <ac7a@uswest.net>

33) [50656] Re: Obsolete Motorola IC found!
by Thomas Kuehl <ac7a@uswest.net>

34) [50657] Re: [Fwd: Homebrewers]
by "Ian C. Purdie VK2TIP" <ianpurdie@integritynet.com.au>

35) [50658] FS: HW-9 accessories
by DaveLeDuc@aol.com

36) [50659] Re: QRPA Solar Conditions
by Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>

37) [50660] Battery Rating Question
by waltk8cv@juno.com

38) [50661] Re: QRPA Solar Conditions - QRPpp
by "William R. Colbert" <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>

39) [50662] Re: e - B a y e-Insanity...
by "clemens" <clemens@wvwc.edu>

40) [50663] Re: SLV 101 Quiz (follow-up)
by David Gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>

41) [50664] Re: [Fwd: Homebrewers]
by Drbob92031@aol.com

42) [50665] GOOD BOOKMARKS ...
by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com

43) [50666] re: 20 meter rig

by "A. Jenkins" <beaks@westco.net>
44) [50667] Re: [Fwd: Homebrewers]
by "Frank Grigaliunas" <fgrig@iea.com>
45) [50668] QRP Afield at Stokes
by <aa5yx@juno.com>
46) [50669] Re: K2
by David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
47) [50670] Re: Antenna reducing software needed
by Dean W Manley <kh6b@juno.com>
48) [50671] RS 10 meter rig question
by k5xu@concentric.net
49) [50672] Re: RS 10 meter rig question
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
50) [50673] From the Past
by "Dennis B. Dolle" <dolledb@cet.com>
51) [50674] Re: My turn!
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
52) [50675] Re: Second thoughts - QRP-L and "happy dances"
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
53) [50676] Arctime Group Purchase
by "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
54) [50677] From the Past
by JClinton46@aol.com
55) [50678] VaBeach Hamfest...Very Disappointing
by "Frank Matthews" <fmathews@pilot.infi.net>
56) [50679] 2N2/40 Certificates
by K2UD@aol.com
57) [50680] Mini-L project
by K2UD@aol.com
58) [50681] QRP Afield Delaware
by "Harry Hurst" <hhurst@delaware.infi.net>
59) [50682] Stumbling around the band & have I disappeared here yet?
by Nils R Young <nilsbull@juno.com>
60) [50683] Re: My turn!
by RangerSF5@aol.com
61) [50684] Re: K2
by k5zty@juno.com
62) [50685] twisted pair feed-line
by Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
63) [50686] RS HTX-10
by k5xu@concentric.net
64) [50687] Uniden HR2600 FS
by bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 19:05:09 -0400

From: "Thomas Witherspoon" <Thomas-Witherspoon@siecor.com>

To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Message-ID: <862567EF.007F22AF.00@internet-502.interliant.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

I will be out of the office from 09/17/99 until 09/24/99.

Je ne serais pas au bureau entre le 17 et 24 septembre. Si vous avez une
urgence, svp envoyez un message =E0 Wynde Lookabill --
wynde.lookabill@siecor.com -- ou composez 800-385-9734.

If you need immediate assistance, please forward your message to Wynde
Lookabill -- wynde.lookabill@siecor.com -- or call 800-385-9734 from Canada
or 800-SIECOR-1 from the U.S.A.
=

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 19:29:01 -0400
From: "dor" <elbc@pivot.net>
To: <cvoid@netcom.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50625] Re: Antenna Tuners
Message-ID: <002f01bf0164\$6f0c55e0\$e910a1d0@mine1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

what type of feed line you using ?

----- Original Message -----
From: Christian Void <cvoid@netcom.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Friday, September 17, 1999 5:51 PM
Subject: Re: Antenna Tuners

> On Thu, 16 Sep 1999, Brian Murrey wrote:

>
> > I built my Emtech ZM-2 tuner last year and I still love it.
> >
> > Coax or wire...it does it all...I think you could load up a
> > lawn chair with this tuner.
>
> i totally agree! except for some reason i can't tune up my multiband
> dipole on 40m with it! it will tune 80m on the thing (it is super short)
> but no 40m! it really bums me out because when 20 goes down and i have
> to turn off the ohr-100, i have to go to the ts-940s/at to tune up into
> my antenna cause the zm won't match it! hrmm... maybe someone on the list
> can set me straight. :)
>
>

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 15:42:30 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50626] QRP Dummy Loads
Message-ID: <02f801bf0164\$c57b4210\$8766d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,

I had another "hmmm" today. I was thinking about going over to the local contester antenna farm, taking a bunch of tripod-mounted pictures, sending them off to a hologram company, and having them combine the shots into a holographic picture. Next, I thought about building a frame and installing a babyfood jar in the thing, paralleling a bunch of 2-watt 50-ohm resistors (8 of em', for a total of 16 watts dissipation), sinking them in the jar filled with mineral oil, closing the case, which would display the antenna farm hologram. Should handle around 20 watts (in case I need a QRP amp for 40 when the static and noise picks up).

Anywho, I was wondering if anyone on the list can direct me to a company that can produce the hologram, and also would like to know if the concept (multiple pictures combined into a hologram) would

work? Any ideas on how this can be accomplished?
Should make a neat looking dummy load if we have
another Dummy Load Nite :^)

72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 17:52:37 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50627] QRP A Solar Conditions
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.9909171722470.9726-100000@shell.rt66.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

There was some solar flare activity today, but it's effects on our
geomagnetic field (if any) won't be felt until monday, so it's not a
factor for QRP AFIELD tomorrow (saturday)

The solar flux today (friday) is 158 ... high enough to support good
propagation on 20, 15 and 10M saturday. 10M may not be open until local
noon, depending on when the MUF reaches/exceeds 28MHz.

The geomagnetic field is still rather disturbed, producing active to
minor storm levels today. The K index has been at 3 for most of friday,
and is expected to be at 2 to 3 saturday. This will cause noisy
conditions on 40M during the day.

Let me clarify some confusion my posts seem to be generating from the
email I get.

When our geomagnetic field is disturbed, it produces huge electrical
currents, which we hear as high noise levels, static, and static crashes.
It's effects kick in around 10MHz, certainly on 40M, and gets worse the
LOWER in frequency you go. Thus, geomagnetic disturbances effect the
LOWER HAM BANDS ... 40M and below. The solar flux plays little role in
what 40M does. That's why it's "open" day and night, year around, active
sun or quiet sun ... except for a major/severe geomagnetic storm.

The higher the solar flux, the higher the ionization to our E and F
layers. This effects propagation paths by changing the "reflectivity" of
the E and F layers. This, in turn, raises the MUF (maximum usable

frequency). Thus, the solar flux is what determines what conditions you will experience on 20M and ABOVE (like 15 and 10M). Above 20M, geomagnetic disturbances have little effect. During very active geomagnetic conditions, such as a major storm, it can bleed into 20M. So 20M is the ham band that is strongly effected by BOTH the solar flux and the geomagnetic field (A and K indexes).

So for QRP AFIELD, with a good solar flux right now and uncertainties as to how disturbed our magnetic field will be tomorrow, it means that 20M, 15M and 10M will provide plenty of good contacts for low power work, with 20M being perhaps a bit noisy, and 40M very "iffy" during daylight hours. I would not depend on 40M only to make contacts, but by utilizing any of the higher bands (20M or above), you should do well.

> SDF NUMBER 260 ISSUED AT 2200Z ON 17 SEP 1999
> IA. ANALYSIS OF SOLAR ACTIVE REGIONS AND ACTIVITY FROM 16/2100Z
> TO 17/2100Z: SOLAR ACTIVITY INCREASED TO MODERATE LEVELS.

> A PARTIAL-HALO CME WAS OBSERVED FOLLOWING
> YESTERDAY'S (16/1508 - 1615Z) 50-DEGREE DSF.

If the particle radiation from this CME is headed for the earth, it will arrive late saturday/early sunday, and thus won't contribute to conditions during QRP AFIELD.

> IIA. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM 16/2100Z TO 17/2100Z:
> THE GEOMAGNETIC FIELD WAS AT QUIET TO ACTIVE LEVELS WITH PERIODS OF
> MINOR TO MAJOR STORMING DETECTED AT HIGH LATITUDES.

> IIB. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY FORECAST: GEOMAGNETIC FIELD ACTIVITY IS
> EXPECTED TO BE AT MOSTLY QUIET TO UNSETTLED LEVELS DURING THE FIRST
> DAY. ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE TO ACTIVE TO MINOR STORM
> LEVELS LATE ON 19 SEPTEMBER DUE TO YESTERDAY'S DSF/CME. STORM LEVELS
> ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGH THE END OF THE PERIOD.

The "quietest" time between events will be saturday.

ALASKA ALERT: Conditions may be very difficult for our friends in AK except on the very top bands (10M, maybe 15M) due to the enhances auroral activity up there all this has produced.

> IV. PENTICTON 10.7 CM FLUX
> OBSERVED 17 SEP 158
> PREDICTED 18 SEP-20 SEP 160/165/170
> 90 DAY MEAN 17 SEP 164

> V. GEOMAGNETIC A INDICES
> OBSERVED AFR/AP 16 SEP 018/032

> ESTIMATED AFR/AP 17 SEP 012/020
> PREDICTED AFR/AP 18 SEP-20 SEP 015/015-015/015-030/030
^^^^^^

SATURDAY

A bit less than minor storming forecasted ... which primarily is a factor for 40M only ... got it? :-)

I have been moving into my new house all week, about 15 miles out of town in the country, about 8000 feet ASL. I'm hoping to get my inverted-vee and St. Louis Vertical (SLV) up before sundown tonight to get on the air. I have my SLV "tuned" for 20M and always worked well on various field events, which this will be until I get a couple of permanent aerial up :-)
Hope to be on the air, so if you work me, it means I finally got something up in time -hi.

ENJOY THE CONTEST. HAVE FUN. Tolerate a little bit of noise and you'll do well.

72 and GL, Paul NA5N

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 17:52:38 -0600
From: "Dick Schneider" <dschneider2@uswest.net>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.edu>, "cqclist" <cqclist@cqc.org>
Subject: [50628] REMINDER: W0CQC/7 TO ACTIVATE WYOMING IN QRP AFIELD
Message-ID: <005501bf0167\$b8f6bb20\$bd9ca0d8@dnvr.uswest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

REMINDER.....

COLORADO QRP CLUB TO PUT RARE STATE ON THE AIR DURING QRP AFIELD: WYOMING!

Yes, intrepid CQC members will "run the border" in W0HEP's RV/QRP Command Center. The target operating site will be in the Snowy Range. But actual border crossing time and location will remain undisclosed for obvious security reasons. It is a well-known fact out here in the Wild West that all three of Wyoming's hams (all QRO operators) patrol the crossing points between Colorado and the Cowboy State turning back all QRP operators. CQC does have club members in Wyoming, but they are under deep cover and there whereabouts are kept secret. This border dispute can be traced all the way back to the day some Colorado politicians rode into Wyoming and stole Buffalo Bill's body and reburied him next to all the TV towers west of

Denver. Of course, back then all the towers -- and the wires -- were made out of wood. But I digress.

During QRP Afield, look for:

W0CQC/7

80M-40M-20M-15M-10M
(BUT MOSTLY WHERE THE ACTION IS)

We will QSL 100%!

Operators: Rich W0HEP & Dick AB0CD

Possible guest operator: Al K0FRP (this depends on whether he can escape his extraordinarily lengthy "honey do" list and if the mechanics over at the Edgewater police department can get their helicopter working to run Al up to Wyoming.)

OK. That's the contest info. Now for:

SKEDS!

Yes, we'll run skeds for anyone who wants to collection Wyoming/QRP.

80-10 Meters. QRP Frequencies +/- for QRM/QRN

W0CQC/7 OPERATING SCHEDULE

LOCATION: Snowy Range between Centennial and Saratoga (we'll figure out the grid square and county)

(All Dates/Times are UTC)

SATURDAY 9-18-99

1800-2400(0000) QRP AFIELD - NO SKEDS

SUNDAY 9-19-99

0000-0100 DINNER BREAK - NO SKEDS

W0CQC/7 will listen for calls and/or call CQ at the top 15 minutes of select hours on 40M and 20M, per the following schedule:

0100-0115 - 7040

0200-0215 - 7040

0300-0315 - 7040

0400-0415 - 7040
1300-1315 - 7040 (This is during the "bonus" time during QRP Afield)
1400-1415 - 7040 (This is during the "bonus" time during QRP Afield)
1500-1515 - 14060 (This is during the "bonus" time during QRP Afield)
1600-1615 - 14060 (This is during the "bonus" time during QRP Afield)

NO SKEDS DURING ABOVE TIMES

Other times during these operating periods - basically the last 45 minutes of each hour between 0100-0500 (that's 7p-11p MDT Sat. night) and 1300-1700 (that's 7a-11a MDT Sun. morning) - we will handle SKEDs, work DX, and generally mess around the QRP frequencies on open bands. You might hear us calling CQ. CW primarily. 3560, 7040, 10106, 10116, 14060, 21060, 28060.

ARRANGING SKEDS:

DEADLINE: 0600UTC 9-18-99 (MIDNIGHT FRIDAY NIGHT MDT)
EMAIL: AB0CD@ARRL.NET (BACKUP: dschneider2@uswest.net)
PHONE: 303-758-9519 (Leave message)
BAND: We'll try anything 80-10. We will operate QRP only. CW/SSB.
QSL: 100%

FOR ANY SKED, WE WILL LISTEN/CALL FOR 5 MINUTES FROM THE APPOINTED TIME.

ON-BOARD GEAR:

MAIN STATION: TS570D (IC706 BACKUP)
ANTENNA: G5RV
ADD'L STATIONS: WILDERNESS SIERRA (QRPp), NN1G 40M, SW40, SW30, HW7, MFJ20

72 Dick AB0CD & Rich WOHEP..

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 18:53:22 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: <leinwebe@mcmill.cis.McMaster.CA>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50629] Re: Headphones [connections]
Message-ID: <000801bf0167\$d3e62d80\$1700000a@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.McMaster.CA>

>Nick Kennedy asks if wiring stereo headphones in series
>automatically causes 180 degree phase relationship between
>the two earpieces. Here's a clarification....
>

Whoa! This series connection thing turned out to be complicated! I stand educated on why you end up out of phase if you do your series wiring conversion from the plug end.

72,

Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 99 16:22:35 -0800
From: Anthony Felino <anthony@pacinfosb.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50630] tuner
Message-ID: <Chameleon.937612807.anthony@anthony>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I have used an L network with the same WW2 surplus roller inductor for my entire ham career (35 yrs.) I haven't found anything that it couldn't load, though adjustment can get touchy. The inductor is the series element. I have built several other tuners, but most of them showed noticeable losses compared to the old standby.

The advantages of an L network are that there are very few parts to cause loss, and that there is only one combination of L and C that will produce a match. When used with the inductor as the series element, it forms a low pass filter. About the only thing easier to build is a light bulb powered by a battery. It is also easy to understand intuitively, which fact is partially responsible for the sense of well-being that washes over me when I tune the arrangement. Even at the most larcenous swap meet you should be able to find all the parts for one of these for under \$30.

Mine is mounted on a piece of plexiglas, with L, C and a few terminal posts.

Everything is visible and touchable and it looks very "radioish," though not very modern. It is not shielded. It is dangerous. The inductor has about 28uH max and I clip in either a 1000pF or 50pF variable C. I can clip in additional fixed C as well. Currently I feed it from the transmitter with a 3' bnc coax cable wound ten times through a big ferrite toroid. This is a kinda balun. 35' of 450 ohm twinlead connects to the hi-z end of the L and common and goes out to a 85 ft dipole fed in the center. The system works on all ham bands below 6m. Tuner common is "floating" in this configuration. This I found to work much better than putting the balun after the tuner, a configuration that violates several "rules" and which caused the toroid to get hot when 100W was put through the system at 80 and 160m.

73, WN6Q

original message:

Been discussing tuners with a few friends offline, and would like to ask = what tuners are being used out there in the QRP and (yikes) QRO community, in particular those that will handle random-type wire antennas (not true longwires, but one of those "get as much wire as you can in the air" antennas). QRO capable would be nice, but QRP functionality and matching ability is PRIME. Whatcha' think?

--

Marty, N5NW

Anthony Felino, Pacific Information Design
email: anthony@pacinfosb.com, afelino@eng.delcoelect.com
telephone: (805) 730 1565, x25
fax: (805) 730 1569

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 20:27:16 -0400
From: "George Goodroe" <goodroe@worldnet.att.net>
To: <cars@k4ksa.org>, <w4dug@onelist.com>, "Qrp-L@Lehigh.Edu (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50631] MFJ 9040
Message-ID: <000601bf016c\$920414e0\$e2b6fea9@ggoodroe>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I re-checked and did mis-type the asking price...sorry for the re-post.

For Sale:

MFJ 9040 40 Meter QRP Transceiver

go to <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/transceivers/mfj9040.html> to check it out !

with - Keyer add on board and CW filter add on. Manual and box included.

\$165...(One hundred sixty five <grin>)

1st Email to me gets it...Then we'll work out the details.

Thanks and 73 de KF4CPJ

George Goodroe, QRP-L #1943

St. Petersburg, Florida USA

80 Meter high noise capital of the USA <grin>

<http://home.att.net/~goodroe>

<http://www.qsl.net/kf4cpj>

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 17:37:16 -0700 (PDT)

From: kclark@ridgecrest.ca.us (K Clark)

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [50632] MiniBeams

Message-ID: <v01530500b408272ed413@[208.138.142.15]>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I purchased a used HQ-1 mini-quad for a very low price about 1983. I had to order a full set (\$30) of spokes, since they were all missing. I have been using it on a city lot since that time, mounted on a TV antenna mast at 24 feet height. The reports that an equal-height dipole works better may very well be correct, but don't overlook a mini-beam if you are short on space.

My DXCC totals, mostly on this antenna - mostly cw - are:

QRO 100 watts maximum - 264 worked/250 confirmed

QRP 4 watts maximum - 201 worked/190 confirmed

My only other antenna, mostly used for 40 meters, is a 40/20 dipole at 18 feet. Most of the really long range contacts have been on 20 meters, using the mini-quad.

My Ridgecrest QTH is at the bottom of a broad, flat desert valley - someone's sense of humor? The mini-quad has held up well in the strong desert winds, although I've had to replace a couple of plastic pieces with PVC pipe. Generally, you can't detect signal peaking as you rotate the antenna through the other station's heading, an indication of low gain. However, it is usually better than the low dipole for making contacts on 20, 15, and 10.

Is it high performance? No.
Does it have a narrow bandwidth? Yes
Does it work? Yes, it's done fine for me!

Keith Clark W6SIY

Date: 17 Sep 1999 20:02:35 LOC
From: <SFIKE@twa.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [50633] list question
Message-ID: <19990917.200235.SFIKE@twa.com>

Anybody know how to subscribe to the rec.radio.swap list server? I have been trying to figure out where to contact for this list for days now. Maybe its not a free list or I would have figured it out by now....
Sorry for the bandwidth...
Thanks to all who respond,
72/3
Scott

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 20:10:47 -0500
From: "William H. Launer" <launerb@crl.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Cc: myetsko@insydesw.com
Subject: [50634] Re: Antenna Tuners
Message-ID: <103130300b40893268737@[192.0.2.1]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Mike and the qrp-l group,

I have an MFJ 16010ST tuner I purchased new 15 - 20 years ago. Mine is a "T" network, with an air wound coil, with coil taps switched by a rotary

switch. I wonder if MFJ later changed to a toroid coil, or if someone rebuilt/modified the one Mike has? I've never run more than 100 watts through it, but it works very well - I've used it with coax-fed dipoles, as well as random end-fed wires. I can't speak with any authority as to the balun in it - I've never used it (looks a bit small to me, though).

Bill

Bill Launer
St. Charles, MO
launerb@crl.com
wb0cld@wb0cld.ampr.org [44.46.66.25]
qrp-l #279 qrp arci #3551
Grid Square EM48RT

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 20:14:09 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: <rules@bellsouth.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50635] Re: QRP Dummy Loads
Message-ID: <033101bf0173\$42e601a0\$8766d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----
From: Randy Jouett <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Friday, September 17, 1999 6:33 PM
Subject: QRP Dummy Loads

Hi Gang,

Ummm. What I meant was paralleling 100 ohm, 2-watt resistors, and doing that 4 times, taking two of the pairs, connecting them in series, which would give me 100 ohms. Do that again and put them in parallel. For some reason, my brain was stuck in 50-ohm mode, folks. Oh, well. :^).

72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 20:58:55 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: <na5n@rt66.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50636] Re: Pre-QRP Afield Solar Stuff
Message-ID: <003001bf0179\$5e3a1a80\$1700000a@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: Paul Harden, NA5N <na5n@rt66.com>

>Gang,
>Band conditions are like really rocky, dudes. The past two days, the
>geomagnetic field has been highly disturbed, causing minor to major storm
>conditions ...

Paul--

You have some influence in the galaxy and stuff, don't you? Can't you DO something about all this? Bring 1979 back. Conditions were so much better. And I was younger, too.

Seriously, thanks for the education.

Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 22:21:16 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
To: SFIKE@twa.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50637] OT Re: list question
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.95.990917221403.10022E-100000@saturn4.acs.oakland.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

rec.radio.swap isn't a listserver but in fact, one of the oldest of the USENET newsgroups.

Probably the simplest way for a new PC/Internet users to access the USENET newsgroups and the wealth of spam and nonsense on them, as well as the occasional useful information (har har), is through the site at www.dajaneews.com.

Point your web browser to dejanews.com, sign up as a "free" user to their mail service and then "subscribe" to rec.radio.swap usenet group.

It's pretty easy, I actually use it to read a totally harmless usenet group called alt.music.barenaked-ladies, that for some curious reason, my local news server doesn't carry.

73! =paul= W8KC
Collector of Ten*Tecs and other fine plastics
<<http://www.acs.oakland.edu/~prvalko>>

On 17 Sep 1999 SFIKE@twa.com wrote:

> Anybody know how to subscribe to the rec.radio.swap list server? I have
> been trying to figure out where to contact for this list for days now.
> Maybe its not a free list or I would have figured it out by now....
> Sorry for the bandwidth...
> Thanks to all who respond,
> 72/3
> Scott
>
>

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 22:25:57 -0400
From: S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
To: qrp chat <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50638] Sniffing 20m -40m prep for QRP-A
Message-ID: <37E2F835.BFF26272@worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'll be camping with the XYL at some yet-to-be-determined loc. in NY state tomorrow nite in a very nice compromise between "Hon ... let's get out of town this weekend" and "Ja ... mind if I bring a rig along?" So, looks like I'll be able to do the ".../P" thingie after all!

I'll be sniffing 20 & 40 tonite between 10:30 & 11:30pm EDST if anyone wants to check out NA5N's propagation prognostications. He answered my question re 40m: "-is it weird in here -or is it just me?"

72

-s-

--

'Seab' Lyon - AA1MY
Beacon NY USA FN-31
QRP-L 574 ARCI 9253

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 20:36:40 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: QRP-Canada <qrp-canada@lists.gpfn.sk.ca>, Ken Pulfer <jkpulfer@host.igs.net>, Low Power Group <qrp-l@LeHigh.EDU>
Subject: [50639] I'm getting worse....
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.990917203311.26018E-1000000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Well, I've been "let know" and thus a corrected list....72 - Bruce(VE5RC)

...VE6QRP...VE6EWM...K5IU0...VE6AAN...VE6JWA...VE6HQ...NA6E...VE3FUL....

...K10J.....KI0II....VA3SB...K0YWD....VE1INN....VE3HVX..K0EVZ..VA3BIK...

...VE3JC.....NA3V.....VE6YC...VE7IVN...VE3FAL...VE6NKJ...

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 22:36:56 EDT
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50640] GOOD BOOKMARKS FOR NEW FOLKS
Message-ID: <a763ad25.251454c8@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I notice a lot of requests for WHERE TO LOOK FOR INFO. For the new folks here is a list of some key sites that will probably get you most info including NEWSGROUPS, CALLBOOKS, PARTS, MFGRS, CW INFO, PROPAGATION, etc. From these sites you can get to most the others often referenced. I don't mean to slight any other references, so those with some additional key bookmarks please add to this list. 73s Alan KB7MBI

DX BANDS: <http://www.dxbands.com/>

AC6V: <http://www.ac6v.com/pageas.html>

TOTALLY QRP: <http://www.qsl.net/k4msw/index.html>

KI7MN: <http://www.extremezone.com/~ki7mn/>

LB CEBIK (antenna info): <http://www.cebik.com>

QRP-L: <http://QRP.CC.ND.EDU/QRP-L/index.html>

GY3CC SITE: <http://www.karoo.co.uk/g3ycc/>

SWAP SITE: <http://www.bro.net./barc/swap/>

SWAP SITE: <http://www.qth.com>

SWAP SITE/CALLBOOK: <http://www.qrz.com>

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 22:29:22 -0700
From: Charles Kadesch <chas@digizen.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50641] re Minibeams
Message-ID: <37E32332.555F@digizen.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I too have used the HQ-1 minibeam (the "hybrid quad" version). I found it at a hamfest for \$30 (I had to replace some bent aluminum tubing). The guy I got it from said his buddy (an SK) had it up on his chimney for years and worked lots of DX. I mounted it on a step ladder in the back yard in a vertical orientation and it worked amazingly well. The coils are very well made and since the loading is at the very end of the elements I have the feeling (but no proof other than some good DX logged with it) that it is fairly efficient. Like all high Q antennas, it helps to keep it away from other objects. It would be an interesting exercise to model it on EZNEC etc. I plan to put it up again and may modify it to work 20/17/15 since this solar cycle doesn't seem to be getting the MUF up consistently for 10 meter openings. Note: the HQ1 works OK on 6 meters as well. I notice the Canadian outfit now selling the HQ-1 now has a version with WARC (17 and 12) band coverage.

-72 de Chas W3KC-

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 22:51:20 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [50642] e-Bay e-Insanity...
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.95.990917223639.10022F-1000000@saturn4.acs.oakland.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

ohmigosh...

I just checked eBay and found a couple Ten*Tec QRP rigs that deserve a comment from the ol' collector of fine plastics...

First, some guy has a 509 for auction and he claims it's a "9+" condition... it's got the WRONG bandswitch on it and from the photo, it looks like either the main tuning knob is broken or otherwise incorrect because the finger "spinner" is missing. Folks, when easy to fix stuff like that is on the front panel, this is one op who stays clear of God-knows-what's under the lid.

Incredibly, it's been bid up to \$450!!! 509's are easily found at swaps for \$200-\$300. Sometimes less.. like under a C-Note!

The next one, a Ten*Tec Argonaut 505 (the original Argonaut from 1974) is BID UP TO \$610!! HOLY DOLLY PARTON PARKWAY!!! Now, it's supposedly new-in-the-box, but JEEZZZZZZ... you can find a Corsair 1 for than and have enough \$ left to ship it to Sevierville to have Ten*Tec rebuild the PT0.

Gang, fall is upon us and the swap and shop season is here at last. Go out and have fun, get some fresh air while you look for a classic QRP rig.

Some of those bidders have been sitting in front of the monitor too long...

73! =paul= W8KC
Collector of Ten*Tecs and other fine plastics
<<http://www.acs.oakland.edu/~prvalko>>

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 19:59:51 -0700 (PDT)
From: Christian Void <cvoid@netcom.com>
To: dor <elbc@pivot.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50643] Re: Antenna Tuners
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9909171924.A6834-01000000@netcom15.netcom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Fri, 17 Sep 1999, dor wrote:

> what type of feed line you using ?

it won't match cause i have a resonent length of coax on 40m and i've been lazy... see, i could match it if i'd just connect the feedline directly to the zm-2 instead of going through the coax switch and the extra 6 feet of feedline. hi hi. :)

but seriously, the zm-2 will tune up just about anything. i acutally loaded up 20m into a shopping cart that is always in my building for people to move groceries. didn't try to work anyone, just wanted to see if it would match. :)

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 23:01:35 EDT
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: prvalko@oakland.edu, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50644] Re: e-Bay e-Insanity...
Message-ID: <b3f3ec38.25145a8f@aol.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 9/17/99 9:52:01 PM EST, prvalko@oakland.edu writes:

<<

I just checked eBay and found a couple Ten*Tec QRP rigs that deserve a comment from the ol' collector of fine plastics...

>>

I guess the *E* stands for Extra higher prices.
Support QRP-L vendors and private sellers on this list
If something goes wrong, you can always work it out.
Bob
WA2HQrp <tm>.

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 23:25:32 -0400
From: Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: elecraft@qth.net
Subject: [50645] Homebrewers
Message-ID: <4.1.19990917220533.0094a5a0@mail.infoave.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

A friend, Frank - WD4BTV (and I suspect soon to be fellow K2'er), sent this to me, so I thought I would forward it along. I think it's supposed to be humorous but, gosh, it all looks pretty normal to me.

Rick - W4SEA

TOP TEN WAYS TO RECOGNIZE TRUE HOMEBREWERS

By Clay N4AOX

1. Only uses parts no longer in production.
2. Still uses a Z80 computer and writes all of their software.
3. Only designs and builds circuits using PNP transistors.
4. Only designs and builds rigs with positive (+) ground.
5. Seldom labels visible switches, knobs, or dials.
6. Spends every other Saturday browsing at the county landfill.
7. Refuses to plagiarize Schottky, Yagi, Uda, or the ARRL Handbook.
8. Never refers to a copy of a schematic, or logic diagram.
9. Builds their own tower, using a homemade electric welder.
10. Regards most Home Brew as infantile or afflicted with commercial gimmickry and pecuniary interests.

(Originally number ten was:

10. Has a framed picture of Nikola Tesla hanging over the workbench.)

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 23:39:19 +500
From: Terry Bendell <terryb@bmts.com>
To: <prvalko@oakland.edu>
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50646] Re: e-Bay e-Insanity...
Message-ID: <199909180333.XAA07667@Alice.BMTS.Com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Being both a buyer and seller on e-bay I can attest to the fact that value is an internal decision and completely in the eye of the bidder.

I have seen old Heathkit H-8 computer systems go for more than 800 US Dollars. Heathkit Hero Robots go for thousands. Depending on the condition many of them are worth every penny to a collector. I noticed Three Electronic Circuit Books By John Markus, All current and only with one bid for \$9.99 each. Last time I checked those books contain thousands of circuits/schematics of electronics circuits and schematics/projects. All fairly modern. I priced these, the total would easily be in excess of \$300 US, Bet I can get them for under \$100. You can find deals on e-bay but you gotta be patient and be careful.

QRP kits on ebay like the HW-8 are pretty high, I suspect many on this list bid on them. Must be a Market there to go for that much!

Keep on Beeping in the Free World!

On 1999-09-17 prvalko@oakland.edu said:

>The next one, a Ten*Tec Argonaut 505 (the original Argonaut from
>1974) is BID UP TO \$610!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! HOLY
>DOLLY PARTON PARKWAY!!! Now, it's supposedly new-in-the-box, but
>JEEZZZZZZ... you can find a Corsair 1 for than and have enough \$

Net-Tamer V 1.11.2 - Test Drive

Date: 17 Sep 1999 23:04:23 LOC
From: <SFIKE@twa.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [50647] K2
Message-ID: <19990917.230423.SFIKE@twa.com>

I have often read that one cannot expect to make a reasonable profit, if a profit at all, selling QRP kits as a side business. I further read that you will be doing so "simply for the love of the hobby" and nothing more. And that it costs as much to do r and d for a QRO rig as it does for a QRP rig.

Judging how wildly popular the K2 has been, I'm sure Elecraft is making money on this kit hand over fist. I don't think they can ship these kits fast enough! Pretty much blows holes right through the above theories! Just an observation....

72

Scott

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 23:18:57 -0500 (CDT)
From: aweiss@usd.edu (Ade Weiss WORSP)
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50648] RE: SLV 101 Quiz (Follow-up)
Message-ID: <199909180418.XAA15885@sunburst.usd.edu>

Hi Dave and gang:

Of course Dave is absolutely correct in pointing out my mis-use of "original SLV", i.e., the base coil version with wound twinlead, which is definitely not the antenna I am describing. The antenna which I built and tested is that described in QRPP, Summer 1998, page 12, paragraphs 2,3, and 4. The details correlate, i.e. twinlead, 20 up, 14 down, cut 6-up etc.

Simply put, I mis-read the narrative:

"The SLX concept would soon emerge from limbo in a slightly modified format but for [the] same good reasons attributed to the original SLV."

I took "the original SLV" to mean the antenna which had its format "slightly modified" from an unfinished product that had been in "limbo", i.e., work discontinued and resumed. I took this to mean the version of the antenna I built and tested since that reasonably fit the "slightly modified" description, and the base-loaded and wound version did not.

A more appropriate name would have been "the original SLX", but I would have made that up myself.

So, I apologize for this misnomer as it appears in the quiz and will appear in my article in the forthcoming QRP QUARTERLY.

In the final analysis, this inquiry is about the concept and the numbers, not the names. It should be absolutely clear from the details that I give that I am dealing with the version of the "SLX" or "SLV" described in QRPp Summer 1998, p. 12.

My only intention is to pursue the numbers and thereby provide the basis of informed choices for QRP'rs in the process of deciding about which antennas to use. In QRP, we use knowledge and skill to offset our sacrifice of power. The antenna is the key to success in QRP. Hence, measured and/or calculated data for antennas is inherently valuable and needs no justification.

Tune in later.

72, Ade

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 23:36:54 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50649] Re: Homebrewers
Message-ID: <03c701bf018f\$da622740\$8766d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----
From: Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Friday, September 17, 1999 10:28 PM
Subject: Homebrewers

>A friend, Frank - WD4BTV (and I suspect soon to be fellow K2'er), sent this
>to me, so I thought I would forward it along. I thinks it's supposed to be
>humorous but, gosh, it all looks pretty normal to me.

>

>Rick - W4SEA

Ok, Rick. Here's my list.

TOP TEN WAYS TO RECOGNIZE TRUE HOMEBREWERS

By Clay N4AOX

10. Uses a desoldering bulb to remove buggers from his newborn infant.
9. Brands this same child with a Weller soldering iron.
8. Names his new kid Dan, after Dan's Small Part's fame.
7. His other children are named Central Processing Unit, as a name play on Frank Zappa's child Moon Unit Zappa, and his other child is name AC/DC, after the band and physical laws.
6. He uses Solid State Design as a bible when attending church, and uses the chant "OHM!" during the entire sermon.
5. If the part he's looking for isn't in a broken VCR, TV, or broadcast-band radio, he says screw it and rips apart his brand new 27" Sony TV to find the part, telling his family that TV isn't worth watching anyway.
4. He bugs Glade Air Fresher(tm) folks on their 800 number, asking them if they'll come out with a burnt rosin scent.
3. The sales clerks at Radio Shack yell out, "It's NOT IN STOCK!" as soon as he opens the door.
2. He still trying to convince the XYL that the Dayton Hamvention is the next Disney World, and that her and kids will have plenty to do and occupy their time.

And the number one way to tell if a person is a true

home-brewing individual:

1. He use's his home-brew 4-1000 amplifier connected to a case of Coca Cola(tm) to brew up his own version of Jolt Cola(tm).

72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 23:40:36 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50650] Re: Homebrewers
Message-ID: <03d001bf0190\$07ca4c80\$8766d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Friday, September 17, 1999 10:28 PM
Subject: Homebrewers

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72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 22:17:13 -0700
From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@primenet.com>

To: SFIKE@twa.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50651] Re: list question
Message-ID: <19990917221713.B2015@bob.localnet>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I would guess from the name that it is a newsgroup, not an email list.
You'll need to get that from a NNTP feed somewhere.

Bob

On Fri, Sep 17, 1999 at 08:02:35PM +0000, SFIKE@twa.com wrote:
> Anybody know how to subscribe to the rec.radio.swap list server? I have
> been trying to figure out where to contact for this list for days now.
> Maybe its not a free list or I would have figured it out by now....
> Sorry for the bandwidth...
> Thanks to all who respond,
> 72/3
> Scott
>

--

Bob Nielsen	Internet: nielsen@primenet.com
Tucson, AZ	AMPRnet: w6swe@w6swe.ampr.org
DM42nh	http://www.primenet.com/~nielsen

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 22:37:44 -0700
From: Rich Wilkerson <richqrp@home.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50652] [Fwd: Homebrewers]
Message-ID: <37E32528.25F4C60D@home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----
Subject: Homebrewers
Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 23:25:32 -0400
From: Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
Reply-To: rsealey@InfoAve.Net
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

A friend, Frank - WD4BTV (and I suspect soon to be fellow K2'er), sent

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10. Regards most Home Brew as infantile or afflicted with commercial gimmickry and pecuniary interests.

(Originally number ten was:

10. Has a framed picture of Nikola Tesla hanging over the workbench.)

What is so wrong with my Z-80?????????

rich wilkerson/ wd6fdd

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 22:39:35 -0700
From: Rich Wilkerson <richqrp@home.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50653] [Fwd: Homebrewers]
Message-ID: <37E32597.FD17E80A@home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Some of my fun filled days were the one's at the Land Fill!!!!!!
rich / wd6fdd

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Homebrewers
Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 23:25:32 -0400
From: Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
Reply-To: rsealey@InfoAve.Net

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

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3. Only designs and builds circuits using PNP transistors.
4. Only designs and builds rigs with positive (+) ground.
5. Seldom labels visible switches, knobs, or dials.
6. Spends every other Saturday browsing at the county landfill.
7. Refuses to plagiarize Schottky, Yagi, Uda, or the ARRL Handbook.
8. Never refers to a copy of a schematic, or logic diagram.
9. Builds their own tower, using a homemade electric welder.
10. Regards most Home Brew as infantile or afflicted with commercial gimmickry and pecuniary interests.

(Originally number ten was:

10. Has a framed picture of Nikola Tesla hanging over the workbench.)

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 02:46:23 -0400

From: "Al Gritzmacher " <ae2t@arrl.net>

To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [50654] Re: That WaCkY AtOmIC cLoCk!

Message-ID: <199909180647.CAA26334@mx2.localnet.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

On 17 Sep 99, at 19:03, K2UD wrote:

- > The clock. In my area I get a single bar of signal strength (say that 3
- > times fast) and the clock is either very accurate on it's own, or it is
- > receiving WWVB very well indeed!
- >
- > I have another single bar, but my daughter wants to eat it. Then there is
- > the single bar down the street.....

>
> 72
>
> Howard Kraus, K2UD

It seems to take at least three bars to let it synch up and set the time automatically.

It took a couple days before mine finally did it. I did find a spot on a windowsill that gives me a good signal at times.

You will know it has synched recently because the picture of a tower shows up when it has. If it fails, or you have set it manually, the tower goes away.

By the way, if you set the time manually, I have not found a way to tell it to use Daylight savings time. When I first put the batteries in, if I set the local time as Eastern, the UTC time was off an hour and vice-versa. However, after it synched automatically, the Daylight Savings bit was set and the times agreed. Cool, huh?

=====
The amazing thing about QRP is not how many contacts are made, but that they are made at all. Every QSO is a contradiction of conventional wisdom.
72,
Al Gritzmacher, AE2T
QRP-L #1664 QRP-ARCI #9837 K2 #274
ae2t@arrl.net
<http://members.localnet.com/~ae2t/>
QRP - If you don't try, you'll never know!

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 00:05:35 -0700
From: Thomas Kuehl <ac7a@uswest.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: Gary Hembree <gary.hembree@asu.edu>, Stephen Trier <sct@po.cwru.edu>
Subject: [50655] Obsolete Motorola IC found!
Message-ID: <37E339BF.215212B6@uswest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello All:

A few weeks back I put out a call for an old, obsolete

Motorola audio amplifier IC, an MFC4000B. I need it to restore my 25+ year old 80/40 meter, home-brew QRP transceiver. A number of responses came in suggesting other IC's, but those would have required some pretty radical changes to a radio I was trying to leave intact. Regardless, I do appreciate all of those ideas.

Well, I now have one old MFC4000B in my possession, and possibly another on its way. The part number struck a chord with Gary, N7IR, and he remembered using something like it back in the 70's in a VHF receiver design. He sent me the small Vector board containing the part and I received it today and indeed it is the real McCoy. So now I have one in hand - thanks to Gary.

Now here is the story about the other one: Stephen, KG8IH, did a search on Alta Vista and located a Netherlands web site (<http://www.stuutenbruin.com/linea/lineair30.html>) that had 30+ pages listing various IC numbers, and one contained the MFC4000 (no "B"). He gave me site details, but also informed me that the information was in Dutch (or Afrikaans). Searching through the unfamiliar language I eventually came upon their email address, and sent them a message (in English) requesting information about their MFC4000.

Fortunately, someone at the company speaks very good English, and they informed that had a MFC4000, but it was a Motorola optocoupler! I thought it was pretty unlikely that Motorola would identify two completely different devices with the same number. So rather than giving up the lead, I gave their response a little more thought. It then occurred to me that both the MFC4000B and many optocouplers share a common characteristic - four leads! Maybe the folks overseas just thought they had an optocoupler.

Without any real way of knowing what they had in their possession, I decided to make physical measurements of the unique package outline, and its leads, in millimeters. Noting that two of the leads are longer end-to-end than the others, I thought these

measures might provide some clues. I also described the marking in detail to them.

Lo and behold today, the company wrote back saying the dimensions and markings matched (except for the "B" which was missing) their devices. They also informed that a part had been mailed today and I am to remit payment upon receipt (all the cost details had been discussed in a previous email). I'll bet they

have a whole pile of audio amplifiers that they thought were optocouplers!

Well it looks like an old Motorola IC is coming back home to Arizona after all these years. It will be nice to have a spare (hopefully) in case I ever need another.

The help rendered by the group here on the QRP-L reflector is, I think, unique. It is really a pretty considerate group indeed. Hopefully I will have the old transceiver back on 40 and 80 meters this fall; pumping out its mighty 1.5 watts.

Regards, Thomas - AC7A

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 00:21:20 -0700
From: Thomas Kuehl <ac7a@uswest.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50656] Re: Obsolete Motorola IC found!
Message-ID: <37E33D70.773ACD2@uswest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Woops!

I shouldn't be pounding on this keyboard late at night! My previous message looked pretty goofy when I received it back from the reflector.

Not sure how some of the words and lines got so fooled up. Sorry.

I am going to bed - Thomas AC7A

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 19:32:42 +1000
From: "Ian C. Purdie VK2TIP" <ianpurdie@integritynet.com.au>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50657] Re: [Fwd: Homebrewers]
Message-ID: <37E35C3A.8DB2C1@integritynet.com.au>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Rich Wilkerson wrote:

> TOP TEN WAYS TO RECOGNIZE TRUE HOMEBREWERS
> By Clay N4AOX
> 3. Only designs and builds circuits using PNP transistors.

One of my very few areas of disagreement.

> 6. Spends every other Saturday browsing at the county landfill.

Unfortunately they are bygone days. It is mostly prohibited here.(variations around the country).

> 9. Builds their own tower, using a homemade electric welder.

Never went that far, the home brew electric welder but a neighbour did in 1972

> 10. Regards most Home Brew as infantile or afflicted with commercial
> gimmickry and pecuniary interests.

That was the only part I didn't understand. I assume the converse

--
73's

Ian Purdie
VK2TIP "I'll give you the TIP mate"
QRP-L member #1978.
URL - <http://www.integritynet.com.au/~purdic/>
URL - <http://www.qsl.net/vk2tip/>

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 05:56:14 EDT
From: DaveLeDuc@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50658] FS: HW-9 accessories
Message-ID: <8075e2c0.2514bbbe@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

PSA-9 power supply, HM-9 qrp wattmeter, and HFT-9A tuner.
\$125 shipped CONUS
Dave K1EPJ

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 07:04:32 -0400 (EDT)
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>
To: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50659] Re: QRPA Solar Conditions
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9909180630.A26209-01000000@bc.seflin.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Fri, 17 Sep 1999, Paul Harden, NA5N wrote:

>
> So for QRP AFIELD, with a good solar flux right now and uncertainties as
> to how disturbed our magnetic field will be tomorrow, it means that 20M,
> 15M and 10M will provide plenty of good contacts for low power work, with
> 20M being perhaps a bit noisy, and 40M very "iffy" during daylight hours.
> I would not depend on 40M only to make contacts, but by utilizing any of
> the higher bands (20M or above), you should do well.

>
Bottom line: SPEND SOME SERIOUS TIME ON 10 & 15!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

In the past several QRP events, these bands have been pretty much devoid
of signals in spite of being open. The few stations I have found were
much stronger on 10 & 15 than on 20.

In the QRP Afield today, I would suggest starting on 15M and trying 10M
frequently. 20M will still be open for the final hours. For the Sunday
bonus though, I suspect that 20M will be THE band at least until near the
end. Should be a fun weekend although it's been raining steadily here
all night with more predicted throughout the weekend. Good luck and hope
to work a bunch of you from the Florida Keys!

73,

Bob Patten, N4BP (0 0) Plantation, FL

-----o00o-()-o00-----

E-Mail: n4bp@bc.seflin.org

Web Page: <http://wg104a.wh.uni-stuttgart.de/~n4bp>

Brass Pounder BBS: (954) 472-7715

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 20:06:41 gmT
From: waltk8cv@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50660] Battery Rating Question
Message-ID: <19990918.100759.-217225.8.waltk8cv@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I was under the impression that D nicads are really C nicads in disguise,
all except the Rat shacks ones that consumers research said " really had
a D cell in there " and they weigh more too.

Am I right :-)

Phil will know :-)

Walt k8cv

Get the Internet just the way you want it.
Free software, free e-mail, and free Internet access for a month!
Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 11:42:46 -0600
From: "William R. Colbert" <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50661] Re: QRPA Solar Conditions - QRPpp
Message-ID: <37E27D96.DE490138@rgfn.epcc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks Paul for the rundown on the solar conditions. After
reading

your info, I decided it was time to try some qrp again. Had a nice qso on 20 with Carl - N7CVB, and when signing had a break from

Bill KF7S from his camping place in the Sierras east of Fresno. Bill wanted to let me know my 700 mw was very loud out there and asked me to qrp nto 50 mw and see how it would go. Went from an S6 on his IC728 meter (he was at 4 watts) to no reading but still fully readable. So asked the next level was 10 mw, my WM-2 showed 9mw. Still copiable. Then I went back to 100 mw to finish the qso - actually qsb took over and Bill went away. My first experience with the QRP levels and it IS fun. Now I need to figure the mpw for that level.

Just wanted to thank Paul for posting a positive analysis of the conditions and Bill for encouraging me to try a higher step(lower?)

in qrp.

73

Ray

--

"Politicians are like nappies. Both should be changed regularly -- and for the same reason"

"Scotsman - Scotsman's Diary 12/97"

Ray Colbert, W5XE, 00TC 3618, SOWP 1064M NCT2
(also w5xe@juno.com El Paso, (FAR WEST) TEXAS

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 09:31:27 -0400

From: "clemens" <clemens@wwwc.edu>

To: <prvalko@oakland.edu>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [50662] Re: e - B a y e-Insanity...

Message-ID: <002901bf01da\$1d726dc0\$5700000a@kb8aob.wwwc.edu>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

All depends if yur a-selling or a-buyin :-)

--

Rich Clemens

clemens@wwwc.edu

-----Original Message-----

From: Paul R. Valko <prvalko@oakland.edu>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Date: Friday, September 17, 1999 10:51 PM
Subject: e-Bay e-Insanity...

>
>ohmigosh...
>
>I just checked eBay and found a couple Ten*Tec QRP rigs that deserve a
>comment from the ol' collector of fine plastics...
>
>First, some guy has a 509 for auction and he claims it's a "9+"
>condition... it's got the WRONG bandswitch on it and from the photo, it
>looks like either the main tuning knob is broken or otherwise incorrect
>because the finger "spinner" is missing. Folks, when easy to fix stuff
>like that is on the front panel, this is one op who stays clear of
>God-knows-what's under the lid.
>
>Incredibly, it's been bid up to \$450!!! 509's are easily found at
>swaps for \$200-\$300. Sometimes less.. like under a C-Note!
>
>The next one, a Ten*Tec Argonaut 505 (the original Argonaut from 1974) is
>BID UP TO \$610!! HOLY DOLLY PARTON
>PARKWAY!!! Now, it's supposedly new-in-the-box, but JEEZZZZZZ... you can
>find a Corsair 1 for than and have enough \$ left to ship it to Sevierville
>to have Ten*Tec rebuild the PT0.
>
>Gang, fall is upon us and the swap and shop season is here at last. Go
>out and have fun, get some fresh air while you look for a classic QRP rig.
>
>Some of those bidders have been sitting in front of the monitor too
>long...
>
>73! =paul= W8KC
>Collector of Ten*Tecs and other fine plastics
><<http://www.acs.oakland.edu/~prvalko>>
>
>
>
>
>

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 08:27:04 -0500
From: David Gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50663] Re: SLV 101 Quiz (follow-up)

Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19990918132704.00a44d68@bbs.galilei.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Dear Ade,

You seem to be confused. Think I can help you out here OM!

This is what you did:

- a) Took the folded radial from the original St. Louis Vertical.
- b) Substituted it for the loaded flat cable radiator used by the St. Louis Express.
- c) Ran it through a software program.
- d) Posted your raw data on the QRP-List
- e) Wrote an article based on the data and submitted it to ARCI for publication in QQ.

Why am I laughing?

Regards,

de Dave, NF0R nf0r@slacc.com

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 10:18:18 EDT
From: Drbob92031@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50664] Re: [Fwd: Homebrewers]
Message-ID: <65a4b109.2514f92a@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Funny thing about landfill scroungers. First I have found myself coming home with more than I brought. I had to take something to the dump so I could have an excuse to go there. The fantastic thngs that some people discard.

The land fill had a big sign at the entrance. "NO PICKING" <V VBG>
72...de wa2eaw..Bob

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 11:10:19 EDT
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50665] GOOD BOOKMARKS ...
Message-ID: <6773b7fc.2515055b@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

First, should read G3YCC not GY3CC (sorry Frank). This is a super QRP and homebrew site.

One special site for all new folks is John K3WWP. One of the most inspirational ham/QRP sites. I visit it often to help me keep my focus.
<http://www.alltel.net/~johnshan/findex.html>

And, lastly...if you want to send a ham friend a special note (birthday, etc) here are RADIO POSTCARDS you send email:
<http://www.radio.mcmail.com/card.html>

Alan KB7MBI

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 11:14:08 -0400
From: "A. Jenkins" <beaks@westco.net>
To: "QRP-L" <QRP-L@Lehigh.edu>
Subject: [50666] re: 20 meter rig
Message-ID: <004301bf01e8\$8575e600\$0ddc0bd0@beaks>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks to all who replied concerning the 20 meter rig, happy to say I found what I needed. To many to thank individually, can always find help here on the list.....thanks to all!
Arch N8EAG

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 08:32:37 -0700
From: "Frank Grigaliunas" <fgrig@iea.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50667] Re: [Fwd: Homebrewers]
Message-ID: <199909181535.IAA13768@comtch.iea.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Drbob92031@aol.com

> Funny thing about landfill scroungers. First I have found myself coming home
> with more than I brought. I had to take something to the dump so I could have
> an excuse to go there. The fantastic thngs that some people discard.
> The land fill had a big sign at the entrance. "NO PICKING" <V VBG>

I've never gotten to pick at the landfill because it's staffed with folks who don't let you pick, but I have found some nice stuff out in the alley on garbage day and at the public rifle range. I guess people like to take their aggression out the consumer electronics that bedevil them.

Frank, AB7YT

Frank and Karen Grigaliunas, 1816 W. Dean, Spokane, WA 99201
fgrig@iea.com --*- (509) 326-7147 --*- <http://www.iea.com/~fgrig/>
"The Internet doesn't annoy people. People annoy people."

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 08:59:38 -0700
From: <aa5yx@juno.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Cc: <njqrp@njqrp.org>
Subject: [50668] QRP Afield at Stokes
Message-ID: <199909181559.IAA01902@disp-009.pocketmail.com>

Good morning,

I will be camping out at campsite 134 in Stokes Forrest (NW New Jersey) and will be on 20 and 40 meters for the duration of the event.

Anyone in the area is welcome to stop by and make it a multi-transmitter event and help me fight off the bears.

72 and have fun,
John Harper AA5YX/2

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 12:12:30 -0400
From: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [50669] Re: K2
Message-ID: <37E3B9EE.EA4CFDEB@rit.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

SFIKE@twa.com wrote:

> I have often read that one cannot expect to make a reasonable profit, if
> a profit at all, selling QRP kits as a side business. I further read that
> you will be doing so "simply for the love of the hobby" and nothing more.
> And that it costs as much to do r and d for a QRO rig as it does for a
> QRP rig.
> Judging how wildly popular the K2 has been, I'm sure Elecraft is making
> money on this kit hand over fist. I don't think they can ship these kits
> fast enough! Pretty much blows holes right through the above theories!
> Just an observation....

Scott,

For a "traditional" company to develop a product, the theories are fairly accurate - companies like Motorola, Kenwood, Ford Motor, etc. all have huge overheads that must be supported by product sales. Things like rent, accounting staffs, taxes, salaries and benefits, computing equipment, prototypes, etc. must all be factored into a company's bottom line.

This is not to say a "garage operation" can't be successful - history proves that many, many innovations come from people doing something "simply for the love of the hobby." But having a technically superior and popular product is just the start - it's an excellent start in the case of Elecraft - but it'll take business savvy to keep it up. These guys have made an investment of time and talent that is paying off in cash, apparently, but eventually it'll take more cash to keep it up.

So, guys - keep it up!

Dave

--

Dave Hinerman WD8CIV

dlh1009@rit.edu

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 12:09:32 EDT
From: Dean W Manley <kh6b@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, kj5tf@yahoo.com
Cc: kh6b@juno.com
Subject: [50670] Re: Antenna reducing software needed
Message-ID: <19990918.061456.5391.1.kh6b@juno.com>

Jim and group,

For your shortened dipole question, it looks like you can use the "Short Off-Centre Loaded Dipole" included in the more than 100 amateur radio programs on HAMCALC by VE3ERP. The coils can be designed using Coil Designer and Coil Equation Calculator, also on HAMCALC.

It's available from: George Murphy, VE3ERP,
77 McKenzie St., Orillia, ON L3V 6A6, Canada.
Murph requests \$5 to cover cost and mailing.

No financial interests. Just a happy camper :-)

Aloha,

Dean KH6B
Hilo Hawaii

>There was a BASIC program called something like
"reduc3". I cant find it anymore.

>It was very usefull in designing a reduced size dipole
antenna.

>I've seen another one that will do this, but you need
another program to design the coils, yada yada. Reduc3
is much easier to use.

Get the Internet just the way you want it.
Free software, free e-mail, and free Internet access for a month!

Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 11:26:58 -0400
From: k5xu@concentric.net
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [50671] RS 10 meter rig question
Message-ID: <00b301bf01ea\$5d3fcaa0\$424aadce@mike>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I understand that they are now selling another one for \$150.

Is it the same as the HTX-100 which had been discontinued? If not, what are the notable differences?

Mike Duke, K5XU, president,
Mississippi Council of the Blind

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 13:46:58 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <k5xu@concentric.net>, "QRP Mail List" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50672] Re: RS 10 meter rig question
Message-ID: <004801bf01fd\$e6b8fd20\$6104fea9@dads-hp>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>I understand that they are now selling another one for \$150.

>

>Is it the same as the HTX-100 which had been discontinued?

>If not, what are the notable differences?

It 'looks like' a rework of the TRC-485 SSB CB set that was sold internationally as well as domestically. As such, it has the AM, FM, and SSB modes, but no CW. Resolution is only 1Khz but the clarifier should take care of that (those types of clarifier traditionally went 2.5Khz). The CB set clarifiers also traditionally only worked on rx, but it's a real simple mod

in the TRC-485 to go TX as well.

It's decent, but not near as nice as the HTX-100 was. But then, it's only \$150!

If you want CW, just feed a good 'clean' tone into the mic jack, although the ALC on the audio may be a little funky with gain riding. Still, it'd be simple to do CW.

Hey, that would make a GREAT project! A small box with a Twin-T oscillator to generate a super clean tone, and a narrow audio filter for receive!

Mike Yetsko
N1DVJ

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 10:48:15 -0700
From: "Dennis B. Dolle" <dolledb@cet.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [50673] From the Past
Message-ID: <001301bf01fe\$2baad480\$3a5a60ce@dolledb>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Last weekend I completed a project that I've had hanging around for a while. I realize that we beat this one almost to death a year or more ago, but I'm posting this mostly for those who weren't around at the time. I'm speaking of the NorCAL paddle kit.

For those who haven't seen this collection of metal and screws, this was a true kit project...not just an assembly job. The metal base came as a piece rough billet. This thing had saw marks where it was lopped off the bigger hunk and had what I can only describe as a black "rind" on one side and two edges. The brass paddle arms and contact posts were cut from brass and were also pretty rough. As did most of the masochists who purchased the kit, I smoothed the steel base by spending 30 or so hours at the workbench moving this billet back and forth over finer and finer pieces of sandpaper until the thing was mirror smooth. I hand sanded the brass parts until the saw marks were out, then spend several hours with a Dremel tool polishing wheel and jeweler's rouge until the brass parts were shiny and bright. Then I put the whole thing away for about a 1 1/2 years while I completed a move to my

present location.

Last weekend I found the steel base. It had a few shallow rust spots. Then I located the rest of the parts. I went back to the workbench for a few hours and repolished the steel base, though I seem to have lost some "analogy" and didn't bother to get it to mirror perfection as before. I also got out the Dremel tool and jeweler's rouge and repolished the brass. I sprayed the steel base with several coats of clear lacquer and baked the base in a 150 degree oven to get a good hard finish. Then I did the assembly, which was the easiest part of the whole experience. My key is finished! I now have a good feeling, good looking set of paddles that I built myself.

The point of all this is that the NorCal paddle kit exposed me to some techniques and taught some skills that I would probably never have learned. I had never before tried to polish brass with jeweler's rouge, nor have I had the experience of grinding rough steel to a work of art by hand. The amount of labor required to do a nice job on this kit makes me wonder how many of these paddle kits are out there in some unfinished state just waiting to be put together and make code. I should note that there were a few purists who put this kit together raw and unfinished and apparently were quite satisfied with their handiwork...obviously, they also failed the pea-under-the-mattress test.

Dennis, K7YN
Spokane, WA

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 12:55:42 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: <brian@iquest.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50674] Re: My turn!
Message-ID: <004401bf01ff\$184f4640\$1700000a@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Murrey <brian@iquest.net>

>

>My question....I have a 4.5 Amp/Hr 12VDC sealed lead acid battery,
>that's charged, but I have no charger to take with me. If I run this
>thing dead, can I charge it from the alternator in my van? Just hook the
>jumper cables to it and the battery in my van while the engine is

>running?
>
>How long will a charge take? (15 mins?)
>

It would probably charge up pretty quick if you didn't do anything to limit the charging rate. But it could be a bit scary if the voltage on you van's system (engine running) is higher than the fully charged voltage of your little battery. Maybe since the battery is the same type (lead-acid) and same number of cells as your van's battery, you'll be OK. I guess that's what you're thinking.

I'd kind of like to have a way to monitor the current and control it, myself. I like the old trick of a small voltage series light bulb. Its a current limiter, current indicator and fuse. Burns bright when you are discharged and dim when you're fully charged. But it probably wouldn't be good for fast charging.

I've about talked myself into the idea that you're going to be OK with your straight jumpering method. I hope your little battery is vented and you'll keep an eye on it while charging. See that it isn't getting real hot or doing other scary stuff.

72,

Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 13:10:15 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: <Macstein@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50675] Re: Second thoughts - QRP-L and "happy dances"
Message-ID: <004f01bf0201\$0ffc9ea0\$1700000a@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

From: Macstein@aol.com <Macstein@aol.com>

>
>"Happy Dance" postings walk a fine line between "yippee" and flat out
>"bragging". Some of us are "sensitive" and others are "insensitive", as
>recent flare ups on the list have indicated. I broadcasted to the world
when
>I passed the Advanced and Extra exams, certainly proof that almost ANYONE

can
>apply themselves and accomplish the feat (Chuck, K7QO told me that some
time
>back). It was not my intention to "brag", but it may have come across that
>way,

Gosh, Mac--I'm not sure if I remember the posting, but I'd say upgrading to
Advanced and Extra is a big deal and I don't see how anyone could be
offended by the fact that you wanted to share the joy with like-minded
friends.

You upgrade, you work a rare one, you build something and it actually works,
you make a high contest score or you don't but have a bunch of fun anyway
... I thought sharing these experiences was what this list is all about. If
I told co-workers or non-ham friends that I built a rig and talked to some
distant place with it I might get blank stares. Or get asked, "Why don't
you just use the phone? Or the Internet? Or BUY a radio." They don't
understand why I wanted to do such a crazy thing in the first place. This
group is supposed to be a place where people WILL understand and offer a
sincere, "Way to go!"

Sure, you shouldn't spike the ball in someone's face or belittle others--but
I don't think I've seen that done here. Let the overly sensitive ones get
back on the analyst's couch. Share the joy!

72,

Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 12:13:33 -0600
From: "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50676] Arctime Group Purchase
Message-ID: <199909181811.MAA09729@edison.chisp.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

In the absense of any apparent way to search the QRP-L archives, could the
person who put the Arctime group purchase together please either let me know
the details or point me to the original postings?

TIA

73

Marshall Emm
N1FN/VK5FN
n1fn@MorseX.com
Morse Express and Oak Hills Research
"Everything for the Morse Enthusiast"
<http://www.MorseX.com>
<http://www.ohr.com>
(303)752-3382

--

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 15:10:40 EDT
From: JClinton46@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50677] From the Past
Message-ID: <65a5951d.25153db0@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dennis, K7YN wrote:

"The amount of labor required to do a nice job on this kit (NORCAL PADDLES) makes me wonder how many of these paddle kits are out there in some unfinished state just waiting to be put together and make code. "

Me too. Maybe this will encourage some to complete theirs ... or make them available to those of us who have no idea what we're getting into but still look forward to the jump.

Clint
KE4FDT

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 15:23:12 -0400
From: "Frank Matthews" <fmathews@pilot.infi.net>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50678] VaBeach Hamfest...Very Disappointing
Message-ID: <001501bf020b\$406c5300\$3f0a61d1@fmathews>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The subject says it all. Probably due to Floyd....

Frank

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 15:40:03 EDT
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50679] 2N2/40 Certificates
Message-ID: <6099ba0f.25154493@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

A bit late in thanking Preston for the wonderful certificates for making a QSO with the 2N2/40, however, thank you Preston. They are works of art.

In fact they are so good looking guys, that all you will need to do is see one of these to get the bug and build the rig. They are gorgeous!

Same can be said for the TT2 certificate. When the Black Cat event happens, work Ed and get that certificate. If it's like the TT2, it will occupy a place of prominence on your shack's wall (maybe even replace your DXCC!).

72 all

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 15:41:36 EDT
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50680] Mini-L project
Message-ID: <89c5a0e7.251544f0@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

My memory fails me on this one, does anyone know the status of this project announced some months ago? It sounded interesting. Did it evolve into something that we already have or built?

TNX for any help.

72

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 16:31:52 -0400
From: "Harry Hurst" <hhurst@delaware.infi.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50681] QRP Afield Delaware
Message-ID: <000001bf0214\$d763b2e0\$4430fcd1@upstairs>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm operating 40 meters only, and so far only 4 QSOs. The band sounds dead, QRN is high, I guess typical contest conditions. I'm hangin' on 7041, there's too much noise on 7040.

72

WA3PTG

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 16:34:36 -0400
From: Nils R Young <nilsbull@juno.com>
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50682] Stumbling around the band & have I disappeared here yet?
Message-ID: <19990918.163529.-1040745.3.nilsbull@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Co-lunatics,

Maybe codependent. Like hanging from the code. Pendant. Code.
Codependants. Ok, I'll let that one go . . .

Had an interesting couple QSOs the other day, one on 15m, the other on 17m. And I'm not sure I like this "move your callsign directly to wherever you're going without changing the number so you could have a W3 callsign and still be living in California" deal.

Anyway, I ran into Jim/N5ZW on 15m. He was runnin' an Index QRP(+) at 1 watt into a two element quad. I think it was his antoona what was doing

all the work. Me on a vertical ain't that big a signal, even if I did talk to Sweden and Japan on it.

Then Larry/W3ANV out in Laguna Hills, CA heard my CQ and gave me a nice report. "Solid copy" &c. After that QSO, as will be explained below, I went back to cobbling together the Pentium III that Ian got me parts & boards for. I spent the rest of yesterday evening with Cindy. It's her birthday today. We went to Las Piramides restaurant for serious good Latino food. Mas que este gringo flaco puede comer.

So I feel vindicated. Although I have modified my attitude toward "freebanders" after having found them heavily entrenched on 12m with their echoes and robots & roger beeps.

I feel a great disturbance in the force. Especially since I found a query about modifying a Yaesu rig on the 11-meter list. Which has caused me to also modify my CB radio page on the fiberia server.

Slow learners. Which is why I'm once again going to hand Ian the collection of boards & drives & hardware & case &c and let him put the computer together for me. And I already have my Christmas/birthday present wish list made up, so we'll see where that goes. (Like "Yeah, right into the toilet, old man.")

73

Nils

Nils R. Bull Young -- WB8IJN -- La Estancia de los Guajolotes
Sonrientes
<http://home.fiberia.com/wb8ijn> -- <http://members.xoom.com/nilsbull>
"In my day you had to FIGHT to have email! Every day was a STRUGGLE!
-- Comrade Sergei Nikolaevich McTovarishov --

Get the Internet just the way you want it.
Free software, free e-mail, and free Internet access for a month!
Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 17:04:29 EDT
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: nkennedy@cswnet.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [50683] Re: My turn!
Message-ID: <9da45729.2515585d@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 9/18/99 1:00:06 PM EST, nkennedy@cswnet.com writes:

<<

I've about talked myself into the idea that you're going to be OK with your straight jumpering method. I hope your little battery is vented and you'll keep an eye on it while charging. See that it isn't getting real hot or doing other scary stuff.

>>

Just my 2 cents worth here.

I don't think I want to be around when he starts pumping 70 amps into a 4 amp battery.

I've seen a 6 amp battery explode being charged from a Ford Escort with a alternator rated at 30 amps.

I don't know what kind of car he has but most new ones are running 100 amps and more.

I'm reading the info on my 12 Volt battery here.

Charging voltage--13.5 to 15 volts max.

Amps, 1.3 amps max.

Bob

WA2HQrp <tm>

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 16:30:44 -0500

From: k5zty@juno.com

To: SFIKE@twa.com

Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [50684] Re: K2

Message-ID: <19990918.164226.9630.1.k5zty@juno.com>

I hope they're making money hand over fist. They EARNED it.

Bill, K5ZTY

On 17 Sep 1999 23:04:23 LOC <SFIKE@twa.com> writes:

>I have often read that one cannot expect to make a reasonable profit,

>if

>a profit at all, selling QRP kits

>Judging how wildly popular the K2 has been, I'm sure Elecraft is

>making

>money on this kit hand over fist.

>72

>Scott

>

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 22:17:02 +0100
From: Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
To: QRP-L <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [50685] twisted pair feed-line
Message-ID: <37E4014E.2F58@vyh.fi>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hello gang,

I salvaged an 8 m piece of Ethernet cable that was left over from an computer network installation job. All in all it contained 8 separate twisted pairs in two bundles that were shielded with aluminium foil with a bare ground wire running inside the aluminium sheath.

I've kept only the twisted pairs with the intention of using them as a light-weight balanced feed-line for an all-band doublet for field use. It's pretty light, too!

I haven't done any measurements on these twisted pairs, but considering the fact that Ethernet signals are HF, I have some hope it isn't too bad as a feed-line. Of course there isn't much air between the wires and the impedance won't be as high as 450 Ohm.

I wonder if anybody tried twisted pairs as a balanced feed-line of otherwise has any knowledge about this stuff (Z_0 , loss)?

If it isn't good enough as feed-line, I can always use it for gimmick coupling caps, can't I ;-)

thanks es 73,

--

Arjen Raateland
OH2ZAZ

SAS Support
Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki

AX.25: OH2ZAZ@OH2RBI.FIN.EU

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 17:32:30 -0400
From: k5xu@concentric.net
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [50686] RS HTX-10
Message-ID: <000501bf021d\$701cb560\$354aadce@mike>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks to several who responded to my request for additional information about this rig.

The consensus of the comments follows:

1. It does not operate cw, but does include AM.
2. It looks much cheaper than the HTX-100.

It's so new that none of the stores in the Jackson, MS area have one yet.

For the other curious among us, the catalog number is 19-1110.

Somehow, I fail to see the humor in that number.

72,

Mike Duke, K5XU, president,
Mississippi Council of the Blind

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1999 16:43:50 -0600
From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)
To: qrp-1@LEHIGH.EDU
Subject: [50687] Uniden HR2600 FS
Message-ID: <199909182243.QAA22221@mailrelay4.sni.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

10M CW, AM, FM and SSB. 28.0-29.7 MHz

Good condition, manual and mobile mount. Scanning, repeater off-set and CTCSS encoding built-in. The CW is semi-break-in with RIT.

\$125.00 shipped to lower 48.

72, Bob KI0G

End of QRP-L Digest 1583

